GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES
The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

NAMED OPTION-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK
Graduate Work from Other Institutions
With program approval, students are allowed to count graduate coursework from other institutions toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement and the minimum graduate coursework (50%) requirement. No credits from other institutions can be counted toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate
With program approval, up to 7 credits from UW–Madison numbered 400 or above can be counted toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement. Up to 7 credits of ECE courses numbered 700 or above can be counted toward the minimum graduate coursework (50%) requirement. No credits can be counted toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement.

With program approval, students may count up to 7 credits of undergraduate coursework from a bachelor of science degree in Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, or Computer Science from an ABET-accredited program at other institutions (not UW–Madison) toward fulfillment of minimum degree requirements.

Courses numbered 300 or above may be counted toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement and courses numbered 700 or above may be counted toward the minimum graduate coursework (50%) requirement. No credits from other institutions can be counted toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison University Special
With program approval, students are allowed to count up to 9 credits of coursework numbered 400 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement, and the minimum graduate degree credit requirement. Courses numbered 700 or above taken as a UW–Madison Special student toward the minimum graduate coursework (50%) requirement.

Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION
Students must be in good academic standing with the Graduate School, their program, and their advisor. The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who received grades of BC, C, D, F, or I in graduate-level courses (300 or above), or grades of U in research and thesis. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment, and the student may be suspended from graduate studies.

The Graduate School may also put students on probation for incomplete grades not cleared within one term. All incomplete grades must be resolved before a degree is granted.

The status of a student can be one of three options:
1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

A semester GPA below 3.0 will result in the student being placed on academic probation. If a semester GPA of 3.0 is not attained during the subsequent semester of full time) the student may be dismissed from the program or allowed to continue for 1 additional semester based on advisor appeal to the Graduate School.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE
An academic advisor will be assigned to newly-admitted students. Students who want to pursue research must secure a research advisor who matches their research area and agrees to supervise their research. A research advisor is not guaranteed.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
15 credits (most students take 3 credits per term)

TIME CONSTRAINTS
Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS
These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
  - Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
ECE Grievance Advisor. The steps described below are based on the
at the student's discretion by submitting a written complaint to the
Issues that are not resolved to the student's satisfaction may be pursued
Note that immigration status is NOT tied to a specific research advisor.
of financial support should the student need to leave the research group.
they may contact the ECE Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, the ECE
Graduate Affairs (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal
counseling and workplace consultation around communication and
contact involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-
doctoral students, faculty and staff)
Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employee.disabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or
applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any
level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or
school/college grievance decisions)
Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class
harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and
sexual violence)
Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty
and staff)
Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about
discrimination)

ECE Grievance Procedures
The ECE Department, College of Engineering, and University of Wisconsin
offer multiple avenues to resolve unfair or inappropriate treatment by
faculty, staff, or another student. This includes hostile and intimidating
research group climate, authorship disputes, unreasonable expectations,
and disrespectful behavior. The manner in which the grievance is
handled depends on the nature of the issue and specific concerns
of the aggrieved student. Graduate Assistants in TA, PA and/or RA
appointments may utilize the Graduate Assistantship Policies and
Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/) (GAPP) grievance
process to resolve employment-related issues. Examples of matters
appropriate for the GAPP grievance process include allegations of
excessive work hours, violations of sick days or vacation policies, or
disputes regarding the assignment of duties.

In some cases the best approach is for the aggrieved student to discuss
their concern directly with the person responsible for the objectionable
action.

If the student is uncomfortable making direct contact with the other
individual or desires a confidential consultation about their concern,
they may contact the ECE Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, the
ECE Grievance Advisor, or the College of Engineering Assistant Dean for
Graduate Affairs. These individuals work to resolve the concern while
being sensitive to student confidentiality.

Change of advisor
Students who believe they are in a research environment that fails to
meet ECE and College of Engineering standards for climate and culture
should contact the ECE Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, the ECE
Grievance Advisor, or the College of Engineering Assistant Dean for
Graduate Affairs for additional consultation. They will work with the
student to explore alternate advising arrangements and ensure continuity
of financial support should the student need to leave the research group.
Note that immigration status is NOT tied to a specific research advisor.

Formal Written Complaint Process
Issues that are not resolved to the student’s satisfaction may be pursued
at the student’s discretion by submitting a written complaint to the
ECE Grievance Advisor. The steps described below are based on the

Step One: The grievant must file a written statement with the ECE
Grievance Advisor specifying the grievant’s name, a clear and concise
statement of the grievance and the issue(s) involved, the date(s) the
incident or violation took place and the specific departmental, college, or
university policies involved, and the relief sought. The grievance shall be
signed and dated by the grievant(s) and representative (if any).
Within twenty (20) days of receipt of the written grievance, the ECE
Grievance Advisor will meet with the grievant and their representative
(if chosen) to hear the grievance and will return a written answer to
the grievant and their representative (if chosen) no later than ten (10)
days after this meeting. This answer will include a copy of the grievance
procedure appeal process timeline, a list of resources and relevant
contact information for future steps.

Step Two: If the decision in Step One is not accepted by the grievant, the
grievant shall have 10 days from receipt of the answer in Step One to file
an appeal with the College of Engineering Assistant Dean for Graduate
Affairs. The Assistant Dean for Graduate Affairs will meet with the
grievant and their representative (if chosen) within twenty (20) days from
receipt of the appeal of Step One and attempt to resolve the grievance.
The Assistant Dean for Graduate Affairs will provide the grievant and
their representative (if chosen) with a written response to the grievance
no later than ten (10) days after this meeting.

Step Three: If the decision in Step Two is not accepted by the grievant,
the grievant shall have 10 days from the receipt of the answer in
Step Two to file an appeal with the Graduate School as described
in Grievances and Appeals (https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/
grievances-and-appeals/).

OTHER
Students in the online Power Engineering program are not permitted to
accept assistantships.